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Programme implementation and future programme of work of the Secretariat in the field of population

Programme implementation and progress of work in the field of population in 2013: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report presents a review of the progress made by the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat in implementing its programme of work in the field of population in 2013. It covers the activities of the Division on the analysis of fertility, mortality and international migration; the preparation of world population estimates and projections; the monitoring of population policies; the analysis of the interrelations between population and development; and the monitoring and dissemination of population information. The report also covers other major activities carried out by the Population Division, including the substantive servicing of intergovernmental bodies, the preparation of parliamentary documentation and technical publications, the organization of expert meetings and the dissemination of results, including through the Internet.

The objective of the subprogramme on population is to strengthen the international community's capacity to effectively address current and emerging population issues and to integrate the population dimensions into the development agenda at the national and international levels. The Commission on Population and Development provides the subprogramme with intergovernmental guidance.

The Commission may wish to take note of the report.

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I. Introduction

1. The Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat is responsible for the implementation of the subprogramme on population. The subprogramme takes account of the recommendations of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development, the outcome of the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly (resolution S-21/2, annex) on key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[1] and the outcomes of other relevant international conferences and summits, including the United Nations Millennium Declaration (resolution 55/2) and the 2005 World Summit Outcome (resolution 60/1). It also responds to the resolutions and decisions of the Commission on Population and Development, in particular resolution 2004/1 on the work programme in the field of population (E/2004/25, chap. I, sect. B), as well as relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.

2. As described in the strategic framework for the period 2012-2013, the objective of the subprogramme on population is to strengthen the international community's capacity to effectively address current and emerging population issues and to integrate the population dimensions into the development agenda at the national and international levels (see A/65/6/Rev.1, programme 7, subprogramme 6). The Commission on Population and Development provides intergovernmental guidance to the subprogramme.

3. The expected accomplishments for the subprogramme, according to the programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 (A/66/6 (Sect. 9)), are:

(a) Enhanced awareness of the international community of new and emerging population issues and increased knowledge and understanding at the national level, particularly in the areas of fertility, mortality, migration, HIV/AIDS, urbanization, population growth, population ageing and the environment;

(b) Effectively facilitate review by Member States of progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the outcome of the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly and the outcomes of the United Nations conferences and summits in the social and economic fields related to population and development, including the Millennium Summit and the 2005 World Summit;

(c) Improved accessibility and timeliness of population information and data for use by Member States, the United Nations system, civil society and academia.

4. The Population Division collaborates closely with the agencies, funds, programmes and bodies of the United Nations system in the implementation of the work programme and in the follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development. United Nations missions, national Government offices, United Nations offices, researchers, media representatives and the public regularly consult the Population Division regarding data, information and analyses on population and development issues.

[1] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

5. The present report focuses on the research and other activities carried out by the Population Division during 2013, grouped by thematic area, and provides a substantive summary of the activities and outputs of the Division, which include the substantive servicing of intergovernmental bodies, the preparation of parliamentary documentation and technical publications, the organization of expert meetings and the dissemination of results. A list of activities and outputs is presented in the annex.

II. Fertility and family planning

6. The Population Division issued two comprehensive data sets on fertility and nuptiality in 2013. *World Fertility Data 2012* provides an up-to-date set of national data on fertility and the timing of childbearing over time for all countries and areas of the world for six different period and cohort fertility indicators. *World Marriage Data 2012* presents data over time for 221 countries and areas on four key indicators: marital status of men and women, currently married men and women, ever-married men and women, and the singulate mean age at marriage. Both data sets include data available as at January 2013 and information on the different data sources and indicators used. The two data sets are also available with *World Contraceptive Use 2012* on flash drives and are publicly accessible on the Division's website.

7. A concise analysis of these data was presented in the *World Fertility Report 2012*,[2] which highlights levels and trends of fertility, the timing of childbearing, marriage, contraceptive use and national policies with respect to fertility and childbearing for 198 countries or areas. Fertility has declined worldwide to unprecedented levels since the 1970s. In the most recent period examined in the report, 80 countries or areas had a total fertility rate below 2.1 children per woman, the level required to ensure the replacement of generations in low-mortality populations. However, fertility remained above 4 children per woman in 44 countries, all of which were in Africa, Asia and Oceania. Underlying these fertility trends was a rising age at marriage around the world. Moreover, marriage has become less relevant for childbearing as an increasing proportion of births occurred outside of a marital union (among the 64 countries with data over time).

8. Reducing adolescent fertility is essential for improving the sexual and reproductive health and, ultimately, the social and economic well-being of adolescents. The report *Adolescent Fertility since the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo*[3] presents new estimates of the levels and trends of adolescent fertility worldwide over the past 20 years and highlights related trends in early marriage, the timing and context of first sex, contraceptive use and dimensions of schooling. Adolescent fertility, measured by the annual number of births per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19 years, declined in almost all countries or areas but remained high in countries where the proportion of ever-married adolescents was high. Countries that scored worse on three different indicators of schooling had higher adolescent childbearing rates compared with countries that scored better.

[2] United Nations publication, ST/ESA/SER.A/331.
[3] United Nations publication, ST/ESA/SER.A/337.

9. The Division extended its methodological work on family planning using a Bayesian hierarchical model combined with country-specific time trends and produced a unique, publicly available set of long-term estimates and projections of contraceptive prevalence, unmet need for family planning, total demand for family planning and percentage of demand for family planning that is satisfied among married or in-union women from 1970 to 2030.[4] This methodological work informed assessments in 2013 of progress in international initiatives to improve women's reproductive health, such as "Every woman, every child" and Family Planning 2020.[5] A current snapshot of specific contraceptive methods used worldwide, presented in the wallchart *World Contraceptive Patterns 2013*,[6] also drew on this work.

10. The Division also produced new long-term estimates and projections of marital status. Technical Paper No. 2013/2, "National, Regional and Global Estimates and Projections of the Number of Women Aged 15 to 49 Who Are Married or in a Union, 1970-2030", describes a model and a set of results depicting substantial changes in age structure in the reproductive ages that have occurred from 1970 to 2010 and the projected changes in age structures to 2030; and observed and projected trends in the age-specific proportions of women married or in a union.

11. The Population Division, in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), was responsible for reporting on three indicators of universal access to reproductive health that are part of the revised framework for tracking progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, namely, contraceptive prevalence (indicator 5.3), the adolescent birth rate (indicator 5.4) and the unmet need for family planning (indicator 5.6). The Division also collaborated with the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and UNFPA on analysis included in the *2013 Millennium Development Goals Report* and participated in the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Millennium Development Goals Indicators and work related to the post-2015 development agenda.

12. In order to inform preparations for the forty-seventh session of the Commission on Population and Development, the theme of which is "Assessment of the status of implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development", the Population Division organized an expert group meeting on the theme "Fertility, changing population trends and development: challenges and opportunities for the future", held in New York on 21 and 22 October 2013. Experts from research institutions reflected on the future pace of fertility change, implications for age structure changes, and effective policy responses. Contributed papers and presentations addressed various topics, including the determinants and implications of persistent high or low levels, current challenges to young people's transitions to adulthood in countries with high or low fertility, and the links among fertility, reproductive rights, the empowerment of women and gender equality. Presentations, expert papers and a report of the meeting can be accessed on the Population Division's website (www.unpopulation.org).

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[4] See http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/theme/family-planning/cp_model.shtml.

[5] See http://www.who.int/woman_child_accountability/ierg/news/ierg_2013_report_launch/en/index.html and http://www.familyplanning2020.org.

[6] United Nations publication, Sales No. 13.XIII.12.

III. Health and mortality

13. The Population Division released the *World Mortality Report 2013*,[7] which provides an overview of the estimated trends in mortality in the world. In connection with the theme of the forty-seventh session of the Commission on Population Development and the upcoming 2014 special session of the General Assembly on the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014, the report examines the progress of countries and regions since the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development towards achieving the survival targets set out in the Programme of Action. The estimates presented in the report indicate that for the period 2010-2015, only 35 per cent of the countries with life expectancy between 60 and 75 years at the time of the Conference and only 1 of the 53 countries with life expectancy below 60 years at the time of the Conference, are expected to meet their goal.

14. To complement the *World Mortality Report 2013*, the Population Division prepared the *World Mortality Data 2013 CD-ROM*,[8] which contains a suite of interactive graphs that correspond to graphs presented in the report, allowing interested readers to explore the various mortality indicators, changes in survival since the International Conference on Population and Development, and components of change for each country. In addition, the CD-ROM includes Excel tables with estimates of life expectancy at birth, under-five mortality, the probability of dying between ages 15 and 60, and the life expectancy at age 60 by country and region for five-year periods from 1950-1955 to 2010-2015. Lastly, the CD-ROM contains an up-to-date inventory of the known empirical sources of mortality estimates for each country, such as vital registration, censuses or household surveys. The Division also released the *World Mortality 2013*[9] wallchart, which presents the latest data available on 15 mortality indicators.

15. During 2013, the Population Division contributed to the work of the United Nations Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation, whose task is to monitor progress made towards the achievement of the Goal 4 target for child mortality reduction. The Inter-agency Group is led by UNICEF, along with WHO, the Population Division and the World Bank. The Division provides input for updating the database on infant and under-five mortality estimates maintained by UNICEF and for reviewing final estimates. Special contributions were made in 2013 to incorporate estimates by sex. The Division also assisted in preparing *Levels and Trends in Child Mortality: Report 2013*.[10]

16. In 2013, the Population Division became a full collaborating partner in the Maternal Mortality Estimation Inter-agency Group, which is responsible for monitoring progress towards the reduction of maternal mortality targeted under Goal 5. The Inter-agency Group is led by WHO, with the participation of UNICEF, UNFPA, the World Bank and the Population Division. The Division provides key inputs to the maternal mortality estimation process, including country-level

[7] United Nations publication, ST/ESA/SER.A/347.

[8] See http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/publications/mortality/world-mortality-cdrom-2013.shtml.

[9] United Nations publication, Sales No. 14.XIII.4.

[10] http://www.childinfo.org/files/Child_Mortality_Report_2013.pdf.

estimates of the number of women of reproductive age, general fertility rate and live births. For the revision of the maternal mortality estimates anticipated in 2014, the Division also contributed initial data processing of maternal mortality modules from household surveys.

17. The Division produced a technical paper entitled "The Association between Two Measures of Inequality in Human Development: Income and Life Expectancy".[11] The paper describes the concept of lifespan inequality as it relates to the life table and presents an analysis of the association between the Gini index of income inequality and a Gini index of lifespan inequality. Results indicate that a positive association exists between the two inequality measures only after controlling for average well-being, suggesting that comparisons of the degree of lifespan inequality across populations are valid only if the levels of life expectancy have been taken into account.

18. In order to inform preparations for the forty-seventh session of the Commission on Population and Development, the Population Division organized an expert group meeting on the theme "Mortality: Priorities for improved survival: the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014", held on 21 and 22 October 2013. Experts in several fields related to health and mortality, such as epidemiology, demography, economics and public health, gathered in New York to reflect on progress and challenges towards achieving the survival goals set out in the Programme of Action of the Conference and to discuss anticipated future challenges to mortality reduction that ought to be considered in the context of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014, as well as the post-2015 development agenda. The health and mortality experts joined together with the fertility and family planning experts from a concurrent expert group meeting on fertility (see para. 12 above) to share their perspectives on how to improve accessibility and utilization of data and evidence by policymakers. The report on the meeting,[12] which summarizes the expert presentations and related discussions, and selected edited expert papers, are available on the website of the Population Division.

IV. International migration

19. The Population Division provided substantive support to the President of the General Assembly in the preparation and organization of the second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, as mandated by the Assembly in its resolution 67/219. The preparatory events included convening a panel discussion in New York on 25 June 2013 focusing on the overall theme of the High-level Dialogue. The event, organized with support from interested Member States, the United Nations system and other stakeholders, consisted of three thematic panel segments featuring presentations by migration experts and key institutional stakeholders as well as migrants themselves.

[11] See http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/publications/pdf/technical/TP2013-7.pdf.

[12] Available from http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/events/expert-group/20/index.shtml.

20. The Population Division supported the President of the General Assembly in organizing one day of informal interactive hearings with representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, which were held in New York on 15 July 2013. The hearings, organized in close consultation with a civil society task force, were attended by more than 300 representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector, approximately 80 Member States and numerous representatives of international organizations. In consultation with the rapporteur for the informal hearings, the Division assisted the Office of the President of the General Assembly in preparing the summary of the informal interactive hearings (A/68/370). It also assisted in the organization of two briefings for Member States on the status of preparations for the High-level Dialogue. Further, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, the Division prepared a note on the organization of the High-level Dialogue (A/68/162).

21. The High-level Dialogue, convened on 3 and 4 October 2013, consisted of four plenary meetings and four interactive multi-stakeholder round tables. More than 100 Member States took the floor in the plenary, many of which were represented at the ministerial or vice-ministerial level. In addition, about 350 representatives of civil society, permanent observers to the United Nations and international organizations participated in the event. The round tables focused on migration and the post-2015 development agenda; human rights of migrants, human trafficking and migrant smuggling; partnerships and cooperation on international migration; and international and regional labour mobility. The Population Division assisted the co-chairs of the round tables, appointed by the President of the General Assembly, by ensuring multi-stakeholder participation and coordinating the inputs of the Global Migration Group to the background papers prepared for each of the four round tables.

22. The Population Division prepared the report of the Secretary-General for the 2013 High-level Dialogue (A/68/190) in collaboration with members of the Global Migration Group and with inputs from the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development. The report provides an overview of the effects of migration on economic and social development in countries of origin, transit and destination and progress made in addressing global migration challenges since 2006, the year of the first High-level Dialogue. It also presents the latest global migration trends and lessons learned by the United Nations system and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in maximizing the benefits of migration for development, in providing a coherent inter-agency response to international migration, and in applying relevant international standards and norms. The report proposes eight concrete measures for follow-up to the High-level Dialogue, namely, to protect the human rights of all migrants; reduce the costs of labour migration; eliminate migrant exploitation, including human trafficking; address the plight of stranded migrants; improve public perceptions of migrants; integrate migration into the post-2015 development agenda; strengthen the migration evidence base; and enhance migration partnerships and cooperation.

23. The Declaration adopted during the High-level Dialogue (General Assembly resolution 68/4) reflects the progress made in global cooperation on migration since the first High-level Dialogue, held in 2006, and echoes the eight-point plan presented by the Secretary-General in his report prepared for the Dialogue.

24. The Population Division contributed to a set of system-wide outcomes and recommendations on international migration and development prepared for the High-level Dialogue. The set of outcomes and recommendations were prepared under the aegis of the High-level Committee on Programmes of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) and led by UNFPA and IOM. The main findings were integrated into the report of the Secretary-General for the High-level Dialogue. The individual contributions to the set of outcomes and recommendations, including the one prepared by the Population Division, were published by UNFPA and IOM in the joint publication *International Migration and Development: Contributions and Recommendations of the International System*.

25. The Population Division also collaborated with UNFPA and IOM in organizing five preparatory meetings for the High-level Dialogue, focusing on the United Nations development agenda and on the themes of the four preparatory round tables. The five meetings, held between October 2012 and June 2013, were organized in collaboration with interested Member States and other stakeholders and brought together experts from Governments, the United Nations system, other relevant intergovernmental and civil society organizations and the research community. The proceedings of the High-level Dialogue series were published by IOM in the report *Towards the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development*.

26. In order to provide a solid evidence base for the discussions at the 2013 High-level Dialogue, the Population Division issued a new set of estimates of the global migrant stock disaggregated by age and sex and by country of origin. *Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2013 Revision*[13] provides updated estimates of the international migrant stock for 230 countries and areas for 1990, 2000, 2010 and 2013. The estimates were released on two CD-ROMs entitled *Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2013 Revision — Migrants by Age and Sex* and *Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2013 Revision — Migrants by Destination and Origin* with accompanying documentation and launched at a press conference on 11 September 2013. The estimates were also made available in an online database (see www.unmigration.org) and accompanied by a wallchart entitled *International Migration 2013*.[14] The Population Division also issued a number of policy briefs on various aspects of international migration to coincide with the High-level Dialogue.

27. The Population Division prepared the *International Migration Report 2013*,[15] which discusses levels and trends of the global migrant stock, net migration flows and their contribution to population change, and international migration policies (see www.unmigration.org).

28. The Population Division continued to maintain the global migration database, the world's most comprehensive collection of empirical data on numbers and characteristics of international migrants. By the end of 2013, the database included over 4,500 data tables available for over 90 per cent of countries and areas worldwide. With more than 5,300 registered users located in over 150 countries, the database has become a key resource for migration researchers.

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[13] See http://esa.un.org/unmigration/TIMSA2013/migrantstocks2013.htm.

[14] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XIII.8.

[15] United Nations publication, ST/ESA/SER.A/346.

29. In response to resolution 58/208, in which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue convening meetings to coordinate international migration activities, the Population Division organized the eleventh coordination meeting on international migration, held in New York on 21 and 22 February 2013.[16] The meeting brought together about 140 participants, the highest attendance since the first meeting was held over a decade ago, representing United Nations system entities, other relevant intergovernmental organizations, Member States and civil society. The objective of the meeting was to review preparations for the second High-level Dialogue; discuss how the Global Forum on Migration and Development had advanced the global dialogue on international migration and development; present the latest migration evidence, and allow international organizations to exchange information on migration activities and to present new migration initiatives. By bringing together entities of the United Nations system, other relevant intergovernmental organizations and civil society, the coordination meeting provided an opportunity to enhance inter-agency coherence in response to the growing demand from Member States for activities and support on issues relating to multidimensional aspects of international migration and development. The contributions to the coordination meeting provided a key input to the report of the Secretary-General prepared for the High-level Dialogue.

30. The Population Division collaborated in various activities of the Global Migration Group. It contributed to an internal review of the activities of the Group, which led to the formulation of recommendations to strengthen inter-agency support on migration. At a meeting held in Geneva in July 2013, the Group principals agreed to adopt a multi-annual workplan and to establish a small, informal support team, composed of staff of the Population Division and IOM, to support the Chair of the Group and to ensure continuity in the Group's work. The Division, together with IOM, co-chairs the Global Migration Group working group on data and research.

31. Throughout the year, the Population Division provided support to the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development. At the invitation of the Division, the Special Representative participated in a high-level panel organized during the eleventh coordination meeting on international migration. The Special Representative was also invited by the President of the General Assembly to participate in the panel discussion, held on 25 June 2013, and to address the informal interactive civil society hearings held on 15 July 2013. During the High-level Dialogue, the Special Representative addressed the plenary meeting and participated as a panellist in the first round table, focusing on migration and the post-2015 development agenda. The Population Division updated the Special Representative's webpage, showcasing his most recent articles. The work of the Special Representative was funded through a grant provided by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and administered by the Division.

32. The website www.unmigration.org is the Division's main platform to disseminate information, data and analysis pertaining to its migration-related activities. The website provides access to the Division's latest estimates on international migration and related publications as well as links to the annual coordination meeting and expert meetings on international migration. It also provides a comprehensive set of statements, background information and reports related to the High-level Dialogue and its preparatory events.

[16] See http://www.un.org/esa/population/meetings/eleventhcoord2013/eleventhcoord2013.htm.

V. World population estimates and projections

33. The preparation of the official United Nations population estimates and projections for all countries and areas of the world is a key part of the work of the Population Division. The population estimates and projections are used extensively within the United Nations system and by the general public and are distributed as part of widely used databases accessible over the Internet, including the World Development Indicators database maintained by the World Bank; the data portal of the United Nations, UNDATA, maintained by the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs; and FAOSTAT, the statistics database maintained by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Several commercial database services also redistribute the Division's work, under agreements with the Department of Public Information.

34. In June 2013, the Population Division issued *World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision*,[17] which received considerable media coverage following the launch at a press conference. According to this latest assessment, the world population was 7.2 billion in mid-2013 and is projected to increase to 9.6 billion by 2050. These results are based on the medium-variant projection, which assumes a decline in fertility for countries where large families are still prevalent and a slight increase in fertility in several low-fertility countries. Small differences in the trajectory of fertility during the next decades may have major consequences for population size in the long run. The high-variant projection, for example, which assumes an extra half child per woman (on average) compared with the medium variant, implies a world population of 10.9 billion in 2050. The low-variant projection, where women have a half child less, on average, than under the medium variant, would produce a population of 8.3 billion in 2050.

35. Compared with the previous revision, fertility levels have been adjusted upward in a number of countries on the basis of recently available information. In the new revision, the estimated total fertility rate for 2005-2010 increased in several countries, including by more than 5 per cent in 15 high-fertility countries in sub-Saharan Africa. The cumulative effects of these higher estimates of current fertility levels produced significant upward adjustments in the projected population size of certain countries between the two revisions and will continue to have an effect over several decades. Also, slight modifications in the projected fertility trajectories of some very populous countries have yielded important differences in long-run forecasts.

36. The Population Division has also continued its work to develop probabilistic projections initiated in the *2010 Revision*. Aside from updating the methods used to yield the future trajectories of fertility, the *2012 Revision* incorporates probabilistic projections of mortality for the first time. The Population Division cooperated with researchers from the University of Washington and the University of Singapore to develop the Bayesian hierarchical model that was used in the probabilistic mortality and fertility projections. The probabilistic projections are part of the Division's ongoing research activities to ensure that the Division maintains the highest professional standards of demography.

[17] Highlights and Advance Tables, Working Paper No. ESA/P/WP.228; Vol. I: Comprehensive Tables (United Nations publication, ST/ESA/SER.A/336) and Vol. II: Demographic Profiles (United Nations publication, ST/ESA/SER.A/345).

37. Several outputs presenting the results of the *2012 Revision* are available on the Division's website, including extended sets of data organized in Excel files (and ASCII database files), an interactive database and other supporting materials including data sources and meta-information. The site also includes useful figures and maps illustrating the data. A wallchart providing key demographic indicators for the most recent period was also published.[18]

38. In 2013, the Population Division began work on the preparation of the *World Urbanization Prospects: The 2013 Revision*, which is expected to be released in the first quarter of 2014. The revision will present estimates and projections of urban and rural populations for 232 countries and areas, as well as major urban agglomerations. *World Urbanization Prospects* is the only available global dataset with estimates and projections for urban areas and urban agglomerations.

VI. Population policies

39. In 2013, the Population Division carried out the biennial revision of the World Population Policies database, updating information on Government views and policies on population-related topics for all Member States. The database shows the evolution of Government views and policies with respect to population size and growth, population age structure, fertility, reproductive health and family planning, health and mortality, spatial distribution and internal and international migration since the mid-1970s. The database has been an important tool for monitoring progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development and other internationally agreed development goals. The Division also developed and launched an interactive, online interface of the World Population Policies database. The interface provides comprehensive and up-to-date available information on population policy situations and trends for all countries of the world. This new web interface allows users to run custom data queries on population policies for all countries and selected time points since 1976, create graphs and maps, and custom-build and download country profiles.

40. The Division published *World Population Policies 2013*.[19] Issued every two years, the report provides the most comprehensive overview available of population-related policies for all countries in the world. The report documents changes in Government views and policies on population by analysing data gathered at mid-decade for the 1970s, 1980s, 1990s and 2000s, and for the most recent year, 2013.

41. The Division prepared a questionnaire that will be used for the eleventh United Nations inquiry among Governments on population and development, to be launched in 2014. The results of the eleventh inquiry will be incorporated into the biennial revisions of the World Population Policies database.

42. The Division published an objective wallchart on abortion policies, including information on seven legal grounds for which abortion may be permissible, specifically: (a) to save a woman's life; (b) to preserve a woman's physical health; (c) to preserve a woman's mental health; (d) in case of rape or incest; (e) foetal

[18] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XIII.7.

[19] United Nations publication, ST/ESA/SER.A/341.

impairment; (f) economic or social reasons; and (g) on request. The wallchart also includes information on national estimates of induced abortion rate, fertility rate, maternal mortality ratio, level of contraceptive use, unmet need for family planning and Government support for family planning, as well as regional estimates of unsafe abortion.[20] A second wallchart presents up-to-date information on Government views and policies on international migration issues, including immigration, emigration, naturalization and integration of migrants for all Member, Observer and non-member States of the United Nations.[21] The wallchart also presents information on specific measures adopted to increase investments by the diaspora. In addition, it includes information on estimates of migrant stocks, the share of women among international migrants, net migration rates and remittances.

43. The Division also prepared a report entitled *International Migration Policies: Government Views and Priorities*.[22] The report describes Government views and policy intentions related to immigration and emigration and how they have evolved over time with changing international migration patterns. It provides information on regular and irregular migration, policies to promote immigration of highly skilled workers, policies to foster the integration of migrants into the host society, including naturalization policies, and other policies designed by Governments in countries of origin, such as policies on emigration, acceptance of dual citizenship, policies to encourage the return of citizens, and measures to promote involvement by the diaspora in countries of origin.

44. Throughout the year, staff from the Division provided technical support to UNFPA on the operational review of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/234. Among many inputs to this effort, the Division prepared a paper on "Shifting demographics and emerging mega-trends in population", documenting changes in population size, structure and distribution for major regions of the world in the 20 years since the Conference, as well as changes in underlying demographic processes. The Division also contributed to the work of the United Nations System Task Team on the Post-2015 Development Agenda and to the Thematic Consultation on Population Dynamics in the Context of the Post-2015 Development Agenda and other follow-up activities.

VII. Population and development

45. The Population Division released the report *World Population Ageing 2013*,[23] following the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing 2002 at the Second World Assembly on Ageing, held in 2002. The 2013 report incorporates the latest available demographic estimates and projections for all countries and regions of the world. In addition to the overview of demographic patterns and trends on ageing, it also includes new sections on trends in the economic support ratio, the demographic dividend, independent living among older persons, causes of death among older people, health expenditures, intergenerational transfers, the sources of financial support in old age, and the

[20] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XIII.4.
[21] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XIII.3.
[22] United Nations publication, ST/ESA/SER.A/342.
[23] United Nations publication, ST/ESA/SER.A/348.

prevalence of poverty among older people in different regions of the world. The report notes that the global share of older persons (aged 60 years or over) is projected to increase from 11.7 per cent in 2013 to 21.1 per cent by 2050, while the number of older persons in the world is expected to more than double, from 841 million people in 2013 to more than 2 billion in 2050. Older people will be increasingly concentrated in the less developed regions, which will be home to nearly 8 in 10 of the world's older population by 2050. These trends will bring fiscal challenges owing to decreasing old-age support ratios combined with increasing needs for social protection and health spending. However, these changes will also provide unprecedented opportunities for older people to contribute to the national economy and their families, and the opportunity to forge active, longer and healthier lives for themselves compared with earlier generations of older persons.

46. The release of a new edition of the *Profiles of Ageing 2013*[24] complements the aforementioned report. The 2013 country profiles include up-to-date statistical information on 14 selected sociodemographic indicators of ageing and older persons, such as the total, percentage share, annual growth, sex ratio, labour force participation, and percentage married and living independently among older persons. The profiles are given for individual countries, subregions, major areas and the world and are accompanied by graphs of selected indicators.

47. The Population Division updated and revised the estimates of the urban and rural population by age and sex for all countries of the world with a population of 300,000 or more in 2013, incorporating recently available data from the 2010 round of censuses and an improved database and user interface. The Division published the new series of the *Urban and Rural Population by Age and Sex, 1980-2015*.[25] The data are available both in a CD-ROM and on an interactive web-based version.

48. The interrelations between population and the environment are receiving increasing attention in the context of ongoing climate change negotiations and the international discussion on sustainable development indicators and on the post-2015 development agenda. In this regard, the Population Division produced a wallchart entitled *Population, Environment and Development*,[26] presenting the latest data available on 15 demographic, socioeconomic and environmental indicators at the national, regional and world levels. It also contains maps and graphs that illustrate some of these linkages, along with brief explanatory texts on the aforementioned indicators. The data show that many developing countries are ageing and urbanizing rapidly and are beginning to grapple with the environmental consequences of rapid population growth and, in some cases, economic growth as well. The developed regions have significantly higher per capita energy consumption and emissions of carbon dioxide, as well as slower rates of population growth. Urban populations in the developed regions are subject, on average, to lower levels of air pollution than in the developing regions.

49. The small island developing States are particularly vulnerable to climate change and environmental risks. The Population Division published a technical paper entitled "Population and sustainable development in small island developing

[24] Available from http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/.

[25] Available from http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/publications/dataset/urban/urbanAndRuralPopulationByAgeAndSex.shtml.

[26] Available from http://www.un.org/esa/population/publications/popenvdev/popenvdev.pdf.

States: Challenges, progress made and outstanding issues",[27] to inform the substantive preparations of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, scheduled to take place from 1 to 4 September 2014 in Apia. The paper highlights the great diversity of small island developing States with regard to their population and geographic size, the exposure of their populations to episodic natural hazards, and longer-term sea-level rise owing to climate change. The total population of small island developing States currently exceeds 66 million and even though the annual growth rate is slowing, the projections indicate that these States could be home to almost 82 million people by 2040. The paper also discusses future prospects for the population of small island developing States in different subregions of the world.

50. The Population Division published two other technical papers in the area of population and development. One, entitled "Cross-national comparisons of internal migration: An update on global patterns and trends",[28] was prepared as background material and input for the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Population and Development. The paper presents new estimates on the intensity and spatial impact of internal migration based on census data from the last several rounds. The results show that migration intensities tend to be highest in the new world countries of Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States of America, and lowest in Asia. Intensities in Europe, Latin America and Africa stand at intermediate levels, but have considerable intraregional diversity. The authors estimated that at the global level, as at 2005, there were approximately 763 million persons, equivalent to more than 10 per cent of the world population, who were living within their own country but outside their region of birth.

51. The second technical paper, entitled "Ageing and retirement security: United States, Mexico and Mexican Americans",[29] applies the methods of national transfer accounts to examine the status of retirement security in three population groups: older people in Mexico, older Mexican Americans, and older non-Mexican Americans living in the United States. The paper compared all major sources of financial security, which include labour income, public transfers, private transfers (intra- and inter-household) and asset reallocations. It concludes that all population groups would benefit from further diversification of the sources of old-age support, including working until later, saving more and contributing to public pension systems, considering that over the medium term, fertility is expected to continue its decline and therefore the family will constitute a narrower basis of retirement security in the future.

[27] Available from http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/publications/pdf/technical/TP2013-4.pdf.

[28] Available from http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/publications/pdf/technical/TP2013-1.pdf.

[29] Available from http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/publications/pdf/technical/TP2013-5.pdf.

VIII. Monitoring, coordination and dissemination of population information

A. Monitoring of population trends and policies

52. The report of the Secretary-General on the theme of the annual session of the Commission on Population and Development is traditionally prepared by the Population Division. The report for the forty-sixth session (E/CN.9/2013/3) presented an overview of trends in international and internal migration, examined demographic aspects of migration and discussed policies to enhance the contribution of migration to development.

53. The Division also prepared the reports for the forty-seventh session of the Commission. The biennial report of the Secretary-General on world demographic trends (E/CN.9/2014/3) reviews the major demographic trends that have occurred since the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo in 1994 and draws on a large number of new publications issued by the Population Division in 2013. The report of the Secretary-General on the framework of actions for the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014 (E/CN.9/2014/4) was prepared in collaboration with UNFPA and is largely based on the forthcoming UNFPA report on the operational review of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and its follow-up beyond 2014.

B. Dissemination of population information and data

54. During 2013, the Population Division continued to update and expand its website in order to provide access to timely population information for use by Government officials, researchers in academia or the private sector, and civil society. The website contains all publications issued by the Division as well as a full collection of the documents and statements before the Commission on Population and Development at its sessions. Traffic statistics indicate that in 2013, the Division's website was visited by about 3,300 users per day, generating over 1.2 million page views for the year. In addition, queries to the various online databases of the Population Division, which are not included in the traffic statistics, could easily double those figures.

55. To improve dissemination of results, all datasets and outputs related to *World Population Prospects* are now made available online. Users can download data directly into Microsoft Excel spreadsheets as well as ASCII database files. The website also contains methodological information, analytical charts and the results of probabilistic fertility and mortality projections. According to Google Analytics data, the contents of this directory alone were visited some 435,000 times in 2013, generating over 1.2 million unique page views. The Population Division also maintains a website (www.unmigration.org) that focuses exclusively on international migration activities.

56. A new version of MORTPAK for Windows, the Population Division's software package for demographic estimation, was issued in 2013. The software package continues to be distributed among analysts, including those in developing countries

who use it for teaching or research purposes. It is regularly featured in training workshops organized by the United States Census Bureau for statisticians and demographers in developing countries.

IX. Technical cooperation

57. The Population Division continued to play a role in building and strengthening country capacity to analyse the demographic information needed to guide the formulation and implementation of population policy.

58. At the request of the Afghan Central Statistical Office and with the financial and logistical support of the UNFPA country office, the Population Division ran a population projection training workshop in Kabul from 21 to 27 July for 15 staff members of the Statistical Office involved with demographic analysis. In addition, as part of the Division's role in the Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation, the Division collaborated with UNICEF in organizing a workshop on "Improving national capacity to track child mortality towards the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals", held in Tbilisi from 16 to 18 October 2013. The purpose of the workshop was to improve the capacity of the participating countries to generate reliable child mortality estimates as part of monitoring progress towards the attainment of Goal 4.

59. The Population Division, in collaboration with the United Nations regional commissions for Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Western Asia, implemented a Development Account project to strengthen national capacity efforts in the construction and use of national transfer accounts. These accounts provide an accounting framework of economic flows from one age group or generation to another. As part of this project, which benefited mainly Argentina, China, El Salvador, Jordan, Thailand and the State of Palestine, a manual presenting the concepts, methods and estimation procedures to measure these life-cycle flows was prepared and published, with the title *National Transfer Accounts Manual: Measuring and Analysing the Generational Economy*.[30] The national transfer account estimates are useful to assess the implications of changing age structures for the fiscal sustainability of social programmes, the accumulation of physical and human capital, economic growth, and familial support for children, young people and older persons. The manual will constitute fundamental reference material and a training tool for future capacity development activities in this area.

[30] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XIII.6. Also available from http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/publications/development/NTA_Manual.shtml.

Annex

Publications, expert group meetings and other materials prepared or organized by the Population Division (1 January-31 December 2013)[a]

Expert group meetings

Expert group meeting on the theme "Mortality: Priorities for improved survival: International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014", New York, 21 and 22 October 2013

Expert group meeting on the theme "Fertility, changing population trends and development: challenges and opportunities for the future", New York, 21 and 22 October 2013

Research studies

National Transfer Accounts Manual: Measuring and Analysing the Generational Economy (Sales No. E.13.XIII.6)

World Migration in Figures, Joint Department of Economic and Social Affairs and Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development publication for the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development

Adolescent Fertility since the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo (ST/ESA/SER.A/337)

International Migration Report 2013 (ST/ESA/SER.A/346)

World Fertility Report 2012 (ST/ESA/SER.A/331)

World Population Ageing 2013 (ST/ESA/SER.A/348)

World Population Policies 2013 (ST/ESA/SER.A/341)

World Mortality Report 2013 (ST/ESA/SER.A/347)

International Migration Policies: Government Views and Priorities (ST/ESA/SER.A/342)

Fertility Levels and Trends as Assessed in the 2012 Revision of World Population Prospects (ST/ESA/SER.A/349)

World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision — Key Findings and Advance Tables, Working paper No. ESA/P/WP.227

World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision — Highlights and Advance Tables, Working paper No. ESA/P/WP.228

World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, Vol. I: Comprehensive Tables (ST/ESA/SER.A/336)

World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, Vol. II: Demographic Profiles (ST/ESA/SER.A/345)

World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision — Methodology of the United Nations Population Estimates and Projections, Working paper No. ESA/P/WP.235

[a] Excluding reports issued as parliamentary documentation.

Databases

World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision (web database) (http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/unpp/panel_population.htm)

Population in Urban and Rural Areas (web database) (http://esa.un.org/unpd/wup/unup/index_panel1.html)

International Migrant Stock: The 2008 Revision (web database) (http://esa.un.org/migration/index.asp?panel=1)

World Population Policies (web database) (http://esa.un.org/PopPolicy/about_database.aspx)

World Contraceptive Use 2012 (web datasets) (http://www.un.org/esa/population/publications/WCU2012/MainFrame.html)

World Fertility Data 2012 (web datasets) (http://www.un.org/esa/population/publications/WFD2012/MainFrame.html)

World Marriage Data 2012 (web datasets) (http://www.un.org/esa/population/publications/WMD2012/MainFrame.html)

Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2013 Revision — Migrants by Age and Sex (web datasets) (http://esa.un.org/unmigration/TIMSA2013/migrantstocks2013.htm)

World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision — Comprehensive Dataset (DVD) (United Nations publication, Sales No. 13.XIII.9)

World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision — Extended Dataset (DVD) (United Nations publication, Sales No. 13.XIII.10)

World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision — Special Aggregates (DVD) (POP/DB/WPP/Rev.2012)

MORTPAK for Windows, Version 4.3 Software for demographic measurement (CD-ROM). For download, see http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/publications/mortality/mortpak.shtml

World Mortality Report 2013: Datasets in Excel format and interactive charts (CD-ROM) (POP/DB/MORT/2013)

Wallcharts

International Migration Policies 2013 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XIII.3)

World Abortion Policies 2013 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XIII.4)

World Population 2012 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XIII.7)

International Migration 2013 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XIII.8)

Population, Development and Environment 2013 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XIII.11)

World Contraceptive Patterns 2013 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XIII.12)

World Mortality 2013 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.14.XIII.4)

Technical papers series

"Cross-national comparisons of internal migration: An update on global patterns and trends" (Technical Paper No. 2013/1)

"National, regional and global estimates and projections of the number of women married or in a union, 1970-2030" (Technical Paper No. 2013/2)

"Demographic Components of Future Population Growth" (Technical Paper No. 2013/3)

"Population and Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States: Challenges, Progress made and Outstanding Issues" (Technical Paper No. 2013/4)

"Ageing and Retirement Security: United States, Mexico and Mexican Americans" (Technical Paper No. 2013/5)

"Global Migration: Demographic Aspects and Its Relevance for Development" (Technical Paper No. 2013/6)

"The Association between Two Measures of Inequality in Human Development: Income and Life Expectancy" (Technical Paper No. 2013/7)

"Economic and Social Impacts of International Migration — Key Trends and Implications" (Technical Paper No. 2013/8)

Expert papers series

"Global employment trends for youth" — Steven Kapsos (Expert Paper No. 2013/1)

"Women's empowerment and fertility: Policy lessons" (Expert Paper No. 2013/2)

"Transitions to adulthood in a high fertility context: the case of sub-Saharan Africa" — Caroline W. Kabiru, et al. (Expert Paper No. 2013/3)

"How exceptional is the pattern of fertility decline in sub-Saharan Africa?" — John Bongaarts (Expert Paper No. 2013/4)

"Fertility decline and public policies to address population rights: perspective from Latin America" — Suzana Cavenaghi (Expert Paper No. 2013/5)

"What are the population-level impacts of enabling people to exercise their reproductive rights?" — Zoe Matthews, et al. (Expert Paper No. 2013/6)

"Harnessing a demographic dividend: Challenges and opportunities in high and intermediate fertility countries" — Parfait M. Eloundou-Enyegue (Expert Paper No. 2013/7)

"Pathways to low fertility: European perspectives" — Tomáš Sobotka (Expert Paper No. 2013/8)

"The changing landscape of non-communicable diseases and associated risk factors" — Sanjay Basu (Expert Paper No. 2013/10)

"Challenges and opportunities for further reductions in infant and child mortality" — Kenneth Hill and Li Liu (Expert Paper No. 2013/11)

"Improving the health of women and adolescents: an unfinished agenda" — Suzanne Petroni and Katherine Fritz (Expert Paper No. 2013/12)

"Incentivizing use of health care" — William Dow and Justin White (Expert Paper No. 2013/13)

"High adolescent fertility in the context of declining fertility in Latin America" — Jorge Rodríguez (Expert Paper No. 2013/14)

"Longevity in the twenty-first century: How strong is the tug of the past?" — Alberto Palloni (Expert Paper No. 2013/15)

Policy briefs

Changes in Government Views and Policies on Population since the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development. Population Facts No. 2013/1

The number of international migrants worldwide reaches 232 million. Population Facts No. 2013/2

International Migration 2013: Migrants by origin and destination. Population Facts No. 2013/3

International Migration 2013: Age and sex distribution. Population Facts No. 2013/4

Changing landscape of international migration policies. Population Facts No. s2013/5

Meeting demand for family planning. Population Facts No. 2013/6

Adolescent fertility trends. Population Facts No. 2013/7

Life expectancy and mortality at older ages. Population Facts No. 2013/8

Trends in Contraceptive Methods Used Worldwide. Population Facts No. 2013/9

Explaining differences in the projected populations between the 2012 and 2010 Revisions of World Population Prospects: The role of fertility in Africa. Population Facts No. 2013/10